GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:6160
ANSWERED ON:05.05.2000
BAN BY USA ON IMPORT FROM INDIA
CHANDRAKANT BHAURAO KHAIRE

Will the Minister of COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government of U.S.A. has restricted the import of certain goods from India;

(b) if so, the details thereof alongwith the reasons therefor;

(c) whether Bidi Industry has been adversely affected considerably due to these restrictions; and

(d) if so, the steps proposed to be taken by the Government for its smooth running and bringing about improvements in the Bidi Industry?

Answer

MINISTER OF COMMERCE & INDUSTRY

(SHRI MURASOLI MARAN)

(a) & (b) : The US Customs has issued detention orders against import of beedis from a specific Indian exporters namely, M/s Mangalore Ganesh Bidi Works on the basis of `reasonable suspicion` that forced child labour is being used by the company in manufacturing beedis. The company and the Government of India have taken up the matter with the appropriate US Government authorities.

(c) : No, Sir.

(d) : Does not arise.